

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

24. A venetian blind including:

- at least two vertically-extending slat-supporting ladders, each ladder comprising first and second vertical members connected by a plurality of vertically-spaced cross-rungs;
- a plurality of horizontally-arranged slats, each slat being supported on one of said cross-rungs in each of said ladders and between said first and second vertical member;
- an adjusting mechanism for commonly pivoting each of said slats about its longitudinal axis by moving said first and second vertical members of said ladders in vertically opposite directions;
- a vertically-extending auxiliary tilt cord that is adjacent to a first vertical member of a ladder and can be moved vertically in a direction; and
- engaging means for moving said adjacent first vertical member at an intermediate location along its length vertically in said direction with vertical movement of said auxiliary tilt cord in said direction, so as to adjust the angular pivot of a section of the cross-rungs connected to said first vertical member above or below said intermediate location; said engaging means including:
  - an engaging collar slidably positioned about said auxiliary tilt cord and said adjacent first vertical member adjacent a cross-run; and
  - a bead fixed on said auxiliary tilt cord and vertically spaced away from said engaging collar; said bead being adapted to engage said engaging collar and thereafter move said engaging collar toward one of the adjacent cross-rungs when said auxiliary tilt cord is moved vertically in said direction;
  - and said engaging collar being adapted to engage said cross-run when said auxiliary tilt cord is moved further vertically in said direction.

25. The venetian blind of claim 24 wherein said engaging collar is between a pair of said vertically spaced cross-rungs, and said auxiliary tilt cord can be moved upwardly to adjust the angular pivot of a section of the cross-rungs connected to the first vertical member below said intermediate position.

26. The venetian blind of claim 24 which comprises at least two, vertically extending auxiliary tilt cords, each of which is adjacent to a first vertical member of one of said ladders.

Cancel claim 27.

28. (Twice Amended) The venetian blind of claim 24 comprising a plurality of engaging collars that are slidably mounted about said auxiliary tilt cord and said first vertical member between each adjacent pair of cross-rungs of said first vertical member.

29. (Twice Amended) The venetian blind of claim 28 comprising a plurality of beads that are spaced along said auxiliary tilt cord, each of the plurality of beads associated with one of the plurality of engaging collars.

Cancel claim 30.

31. (Twice Amended) The venetian blind of claim 24 comprising a plurality of engaging collars that are slidably mounted about said auxiliary tilt cord and said first vertical member between selected pairs of cross-rungs of said first vertical member.

32. (Twice Amended) The venetian blind of claim 31 comprising a plurality of beads that are spaced along said auxiliary tilt cord, each of the plurality of beads associated with one of the plurality of engaging collars.

Cancel claim 33.

Cancel claim 34.